

Reissue Application: 09/827,024  
November 1, 2005

Kevin,

This reissue case has been reviewed by the SPRE shop and is not yet ready for issue for the following reasons:

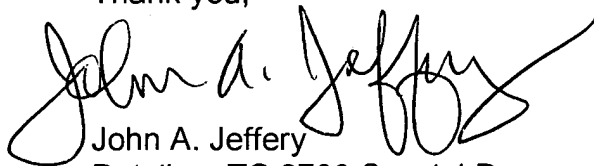
Patent Expired

The patent on which this reissue is based (5,899,222) has expired due to nonpayment of maintenance fees. Therefore, you will need to withdraw the allowance and reject all claims under 35 U.S.C. § 251 as lacking basis for reissue. You should also cite In re Morgan, 990 F.2d 1230, 26 USPQ2d 1392 (Fed. Cir. 1983) (holding that the USPTO has authority to reissue patents only for the unexpired part of the term of the original patent).

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. Because reissue applications are handled with special dispatch in accordance with MPEP 1442, I would appreciate your resolving the above issues and returning the case to my office no later than Monday, November 7, 2005. I'm located in Randolph 8D69.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Jeffery", with a stylized flourish at the end.

John A. Jeffery  
Detailer, TC 3700 Special Programs Examination Unit  
571-272-4781  
RAN 8D69